**Foundations of Civilizations Guided Notes**

**Looking at civilizations through PEGS -Political, Economical, Geographical and Social Characteristics**

**Moving from the Stone Age**

* After the **Stone Age** some people started farming
  + Domestication of animals – raising of animals for food
  + Agriculture – raising of plants for food
* Others continued hunting and gathering – these people were referred to as nomads (they had no stationary home)

**4 regions where civilizations grew along rivers**

* 1. **Nile River** valley in Africa
* 2. **Tigris and Euphrates** in Asia
* 3. **Indus** in India (southern Asia)
* 4. **Huang** (Yellow) in China

Civilizations- a complex culture that has at least 3 features

1. people are able to produce surplus (extra) **food – Farming (agriculture)**

2. people establish **towns** or cities and set up a government

3. people performed **different** jobs

(called division of labor)-like an artisan that makes a particular craft

As civilizations grew they began to share features which is called cultural diffusion

**PEGS**

**All important civilizations can be studied using 4 common characteristics;**

* Political systems
* Economic systems
* Geographical features
* Social systems

**Political**

**With the growth of towns came the need for laws and rules**

* Rulers became important
* Laws were drawn up
* Punishments were made
* Territory boundaries were made

Economic

**As people lived together it became important for a group to feed its members as well as trade with other groups**

* Barter and money systems developed
* Trade grew
* Societies members took on specific professions

**Geographic**

**To study a civilization one must know where it is located and what type of natural resources are important**

* Location
* Natural resources and how to use
* them became important
* Possibility of trade
* Climate affects on travel, food, and life style

**Social**

**As civilizations grew a need for a unified social system became important**

* Common traditions and practices grew
* Common cultures grew
* Common communications tools were developed
* Common belief systems became important

Vocabulary

artifact agriculture belief systems civilization cultural diffusion

domestication nomads division of labor artisan

culture irrigation